

## Minutes for Regular Meeting of East Union Township Supervisors

Held on Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at 5:30 pm located at 10 E Elm St. Shepton PA 18248

- **Time Meeting Called to Order: 5:31 pm**
- **Supervisors/Officers Present at the Meeting:** Chairperson – Kyle Mummey, Vice-Chairperson – Wendy Danchision, Supervisor – Jill Careyva, Solicitor – Attorney Karpowich, Engineer – Dominic Yannuzzi, Secretary – Stephanie Van Gieson, Treasurer – Michael Gaizick, Roadmaster – Daniel Danchision. Absent – Code Officer – Rich Verbonitz, Zoning Officer – Henry Mleczynski (Attendance not necessary).

**Public participation on agenda items only (Chairperson reserves the right to limit each person to five minutes).** *Note: Attendees may make public comments; your name and address may be recorded in meeting minutes. Comments/questions not serving legitimate Township purpose may not be addressed or answered by the Supervisors.*

Martin Kutsko: seeking an update on the previous Chief of police. K. Mummey advised that this participation was on agenda items only.

Edwina Matuszkiewicz: (not a current agenda item; however, was on Old Business last month) – asking if there would be an increase in the Secretary's hours now that the position of both (EUTSA) will not occur. K. Mummey advised that it is difficult enough to get Township requirements done in 25 hours per week.

- Motion to approve May's Regular Meeting Minutes: Motion made by W. Danchision, seconded by J. Careyva.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_X\_\_\_
- Motion to approve May's 15<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes: Motion made by J. Careyva, seconded by W. Danchision.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_X\_\_\_
- Motion to approve April's Meeting Minutes (corrections needed): Motion made by W. Danchision, seconded by J. Careyva.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_X\_\_\_
- Motion to approve May 2024 Treasurer's Report / Motion to approve all bills for payment: Motion made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_X\_\_\_
- ✓ Discussion/Updates on SR 924 Traffic Study – there will be a traffic study completed, looking to straighten the "S" turn to alleviate passing on the double line. PennDOT predicts that updates/changes will most likely not be done until 2050.
- ✓ Discussion/Updates on Comprehensive Study Appointment – there will be delegates appointed for participating Townships. Review of the plan. J. Shovlin recommended possibly hiring a grant writer as EUT has missed out on grant opportunities for substantial amounts of monies. Ray Trojan advised there has been substantial amounts of passing on the double line. He counted over 300 vehicles and three days

later traffic studies were being completed (number of vehicles, patterns, etc.) D.

Danchision advised that he was speaking with Shawn Brown regarding a sign advising them to slow down. This can be placed before the "S" turn before the last entrance to Humboldt, and another before the last entrance to advise drivers driving to Hazleton. D. Yannuzzi advised that Benesch has completed road reports with the cooperation of the police for crash reports and other pertinent information, which will be reviewed by PennDOT. Jo Anna asked if Carey Cox could receive a copy of this study or accompanying information for her records and how they complete reports like this.

- ✓ Appointment of Committee Members for Comprehensive Study – motion to appoint Jo Anna Shovlin and Robert Gabardi: Motion was made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.

Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_abstain\_\_\_

▪ **Township Officers' Reports:**

○ Solicitor's Report:

- Motion to update the Code of Ordinances to adopt the 2018 IPMC - Motion was made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.

Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_X\_\_\_

- Motion to establish a Recreation Board of five members without restriction as to affiliation – Motion made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.

Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_X\_\_\_

- Engineer's Report:
- Police Report:
- Road Report:
- Code & Zoning Report:
- Pumpy Project Report:
- Other Officer Reports:

Treasurer's Report: amounts discussed/accounts reviewed. Real Estate taxes were received which resulted in higher deposits. Donations were received for the police. Reviewed the Spring Clean up participants/amounts/etc. J. Careyva asked when the security system was going to be installed. W. Danchision stated possibly as early as this week or next.

Solicitor's Report: Resolution 2024-01 adopted the 2018 IPMC. Electronic copy is on file. REC Board requirements have been re-established. Member(s) do not have to be affiliated with the Sheppton American Legion. Terms will be staggered. Waiting on updates from traffic/road studies, which will be updated accordingly with the codification. W. Danchision seeking clarification if rental property owners can be required to get inspections. Attorney Karpowich stated that notices can be sent out to renters to register and that inspections would be required for the safety of the renters & property owners. A third party can complete this or the Zoning officer. This is to ensure that code and fire safety are up to standard. \$10.00 per unit, inspection will not be mandated but will cost \$150.00 with tenant information, as well as insurance information. J. Careyva was questioning if there are a lot of rental properties/renters in the area. K. Mummey stated that he is unsure how many, but

this is a safety concern and wants to ensure everyone is protected. Attorney Karpowich stated that this can be completely yearly, bi-yearly, etc. He also stated that he would be looking into Air B&B's. Mr. Trojan advised that there is a property that may be utilizing their home as a rental property. He stated that this property is also completing work on the home without a permit. Attorney Karpowich suggested sending a letter advising them of these concerns. Ms. Houser stated that there are campers that are being utilized as living arrangements. Ms. Matuszkiewicz was seeking clarification on the REC Board members. Attorney Karpowich advised that it will be a 5-7 person board and the members do not need to live in East Union Township.

Engineer's Report: The PIB Loan was lowered from \$750,000.00 to \$675,000.00. D. Yannuzzi this may take approximately 2 months to process. It is up to the state's discretion. Bids will be taken soon. DCNR (American Legion Park Grant) – there will be a request made for an extension for one year if possible. D. Yannuzzi stated the scope of work must be approved (plans/layout). Ideally, construction would commence before the end of 2024 Summer. W. Danchision had questioned upcoming grant opportunities; specifically advising there is an upcoming grant with a June deadline. A Resolution would need to be passed to apply for additional grants. W. Danchision stated she would like to look into grants for expanding the garage to hold vehicles, all equipment and products/supplies. W. Danchision also mentioned grants to increase the size of the salt shed. Prices have substantially increased and having the ability to stockpile would be financially beneficial. D. Yannuzzi advised that he will reach out to state reps and senators to assist the process and that he will start applying for next year. D. Yannuzzi advised that the PennDOT grant should be completed for the next meeting.

Police Report: C. Dimmick made the recommendations to continue with the hiring of officer Litwhiler and postponing on hiring officer Abreu.

Road Report: Road crew has been doing litter clean up, filling potholes, grass and weed maintenance. The equipment needs to be reviewed by MediCo as there were some concerns with keep up with fluid maintenance. The West Market St. issue will be addressed. There have been many smaller jobs that have come up; however, they are continuing to move forward with getting all projects and necessities repaired.

▪ **Old Business:**

- Motion/Discussion on approval of air conditioning unit quotes – up to \$7,000.00. Motion made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_NAY\_\_\_
- Motion/Discussion on approval of water treatment system – Motion made by W. Danchision, seconded by J. Careyva.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_X\_\_\_

AC – D. Yannuzzi stated that there is a ductless option for the AC unit install. D. Danchision advised that one of the quotes is for 20-30 thousand BTU's. D. Yannuzzi had a company that he is familiar with and would receive a quote. K. Mummey stated that the price range of \$5,000.00 - \$6,000.00 was fairly reasonable.

*Motion to accept the approval on the installation of an AC unit for the meeting room up to the amount of \$7,000.00 was made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.*

*Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_NAY\_\_\_*

Water Treatment System: this installation will rectify the ongoing water concerns. It is approximately almost \$6,000.00. D. Yannuzzi advised that the well could be dug deeper to see if this will alleviate the rust issues but would be more than the \$6,000.00. He recommended ensuring that the filtration system will correct with this installation. D. Danchision stated that the company guarantees that this will correct it, or they will refund the money and take out the system for free. E. Matuszkiewicz asking if there were any more quotes received; local companies – Lescowitch? D. Danchision advised that is the company that initially installed the previous system, and it was only fixing the garage issue and had no rectification on the office issues.

▪ **New Business:**

- Motion to hire part-time police officer Litweiler – Motion made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_NAY\_\_\_
- Motion to hire part-time police officer Abreu – TABLED – Motion to table was made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_X\_\_\_
- Motion/Discussion on amending EUT Fee Schedule – Motion was made by W. Danchision, seconded by K. Mummey.  
Roll Call: Mummey \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Danchision \_\_\_X\_\_\_; Careyva \_\_\_NAY\_\_\_

Police hiring: J. Careyva was not able to meet with the candidate that is being hired to the police force but was able to meet after. She advised that she did research and that is why she had voted nay. Ray Trojan stated that there is a probationary period if it did not work out. K. Mummey stated that he had a great interview, ACT 57 certified, background check was completed, and other criteria that need to be completed before hiring can be considered. C. Dimmick advised that J. Careyva should not continue her statement(s) and stated that this conversation should be concluded, as they could be legal concerns or ramifications.

**Public participation on non-agenda items only (Chairperson reserves the right to limit each person to five minutes).** *Note: Attendees may make public comments; your name and address may be recorded in meeting minutes. Comments/questions not serving legitimate Township purpose may not be addressed or answered by the Supervisors.*

Marty Kutsko – seeking clarification on the high grass in Brandonville (firehouse, gas station). K. Mummey suggested that he file a complaint with code. He said there is another property that the owner passed away and it is not being taken care of. Again, was advised to contact code and file a formal complaint. Mr. Kutsko was also concerned that there are potholes near the bridge on the North side. D. Danchision stated that the Road Crew is doing their best to stay ahead of all the requests and rectify all the concerns that have arisen. There have been several things that have been resolved and want to keep moving forward. D. Danchision stated that there was a significant amount of funds spent on dirt roads (Old Mill Rd.) and the roads are still an area of very high concern.

T. Houser – seeking clarification regarding Cranberry Alley. She advised that the dirt is not holding and that her vehicles and others were bottoming out due to the erosion due to use and weather. She was also seeking what can be done for harassment of neighbors. She was

instructed to follow protocol: put in a formal complaint with code and/or contact the EUTPD if needed.

Travis Martz – seeking possible updates on the new speed sign and the delivery on the larger one. K. Mummey stated that the larger sign is being delivered and the previous, smaller one would be picked up and shipped back to the manufacturer. He also stated that they fortunately were able to get the larger sign for the same price. Mr. Martz voiced his concerns with ATV's and the vehicles traveling at high rates of speed. Mr. Trojan joined the conversation stating that he did see a larger number of ATV's were seen. C. Dimmick stated that he was able to speak with them and they did receive a warning. K. Mummey stated that the people posing issues are the majority of out-of-town people. Mr. Martz asked if there could be driveway signs erected to ensure drivers know that they need to slow down. K. Mummey stated that PennDOT would need to be involved as it is a state highway.

Police – the purchasing of a new police vehicle is occurring (2023 Dodge Charger). When the process is complete it will need to have upfitting's and other additions. There was also an email update that the DCED police survey is completed. Updates will soon follow.

- **Motion to Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by J. Careyva, seconded by W. Danchision.
- **Time Meeting Adjourned: 7:09 pm**
- **Members of Public in Attendance (please see attached sign-in sheet):**